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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENTS & TRADEMARKS OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Yasuji HIRAMATSU, et al. : EXAMINER:  
SERIAL NO: 10/619,567 :  
FILED: July 16, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT:  
FOR: CERAMIC SUBSTRATE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified Continuation Application, filed under Rule 53(b), as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.